supply of plant protection enquipments, sprinkler sets, distribution of seeds, Integrated Pest Management, demonstration-cum-training, farmer's training etc. The scheme is being implemented on 75:25 cost sharing basis between Government of India and the State.

(c) and (d) During 1998-99, an amount of Rs. 85.85 lakh has been allocated to Orissa State comprising of Rs. 64.39 lakh as Central share and Rs. 21.26 lakh as State share. For the Ninth Plan, Orissa State has been included in the cotton development scheme.

Production of onions, potatoes, tomatoes and pulses

2035. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the total production of onions, potatoes, tomatoes and pulses in the country during the past six months;

(b) whether Government have provided any direct help to the agriculturists to boost production of these items and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to boost production of these items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Monthwise details on the production of onion, potatoes and tomato are not estimated. However, the likely production of pulses during Kharif 1998-99 is estimated at 5.61 million tonnes.

(b) and (c) Government of India is implementing two Central Sector Schemes namely, (i) Production and Supply of Vegetable Seeds and (ii) Development of Root & Tuber Crops. These schemes povide the incentives to the farmers through supply of quality seeds of improved varieties of vegetable through minikits which includes onion, potato, tomato and other vegetable. In case of pulses, incentives to the farmers are being provided through State Governments on the use of certified seeds, rhyzobium culture, micro nutrients, sprinkler sets, improved farm implements, plant protection equipment, etc. Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on National Pulses Development Project to motivate the farmers to adopt the improved production technology to increase the pulses production in the country.

Study on Problems of Small and Marginal Farmers

2036. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to conduct an in-depth study of the problems of small and marginal farmers and agriculture labour;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government have any proposal to announce safety net and social security measures for their benefit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (c) It has been proposed to set up a High Powered Committee to look into the real financial condition of farmers and to recommend ways to improve their financial condition.

Making the Crop Insurance Compulsory

2037. SHRI YERRA NARAYANA-SWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to make it compulsory for farmers to take insurance on their crops;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government insists on linking agricultural loans to agricultural insurance; and

(c) if so, whether the costs of compulsory insurance have been estimated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (c) It is proposed to introduce a Modified Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (MCCIS) from Kharif 1999 season onwards. Some of the features proposed to be included in MCCIS are:

— Both loanee and non-loanee farmers will be covered. Participation of loanee farmers is proposed to be made compulsory and voluntary for non-loanee farmers.

— The sum insured under the proposed scheme is proposed to be linked to the scale of finance/crop loan disbursed to the farmers.

Details of the new scheme are being worked out.

Dairy Development

2038. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken steps for the development of dairy during Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the State-wise achievement made therein;

(c) whether Government propose to lay emphasis on dairy development in Ninth Plan; and

(d) if so, the State-wise allocation made so far, fund earmarked for Ninth Plan and the schemes prepared thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) The primary responsibility for development of dairying is that of their respective State Governments. However the Government of India has implemented the following major dairy development programmes during the Eight Plan Period to augment the efforts of the State Governments:—

(i) Operation Flood III (ii) Integrated Dairy Development Project (iii) Technology Mission on Dairy Development. State-wise achievement upto the end of Eighth Plan in respect of the above three schemes are given in Statement-I, II, III respectively. (*See* below).

(c) and (d) Government continues to lay emphasis on Dairy Development in Ninth Plan also. The Operation Flood Programme which was externally aided project has come to an end in April, 96. The NDDB is however financing dairy projects in States in the post Operation Flood Period out of its own resources. A statement indicating details of project sanctioned by NDDB in post Operation Flood Period in all the states is given at statement-IV (*See* below). Apart from continuing all the projects under IDDP the Central Government has approved 7 new projects during the first two years of Ninth Plan as per details in Statement V.

Statement-I

Physical Progress of Key Components of operation Flood III Project at the end of VIIIth Plan (Commulative)

Region/State	DCS Organised	Farmer Members ('000)	Rural Milk Procure-ment ('000 KG/D)	Milk Market-ing ('000 L/D)	Capacity Liquid Milk ('000 L/D)	Capacity Powder (MT/D) (MT/D)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Western Region						
Gujarat	11900	2019	3885	1546	6960	453.0
Maharashtra	5807	1134	2125	2015	3970	60.0
Madhya Pradesh	4152	210	187	236	1030	30.0
Goa	155	16	22	61	75	
TOTAL	22014	3379	6219	3857	12035	543.0
Southern Region						
Tamilnadu	7870	1892	1216	1333	2421	70.0
Karnataka	7419	1434	1408	1224	2030	37.0
Andhra Pradesh	5338	707	639	593	2397	126.0
Kerala	1462	382	312	382	410	10.0
Pondicherry	82	23	29	34	50	
TOTAL	22171	4438	3604	3566	7308	243.0